



# CALIFORNIA STATE THREAT ASSESSMENT CENTER

## 24-HOUR REPORT

**10 DECEMBER 2020**

### (U) CALIFORNIA

#### **(U) Altadena – Officials Release Photos of Two Men Involved in Ambush of Altadena Sheriff's Deputy**

(U) Authorities released photos yesterday of two men involved in the “unprovoked ambush” of an Altadena sheriff's deputy last week in their ongoing search for the assailants. One man allegedly pointed a gun at the deputy and fired several shots before both men ran away, according to the Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department. The deputy was not struck by gunfire. The shooting is under investigation and the men remain at large.

SOURCE: 9 December 2020, [KTLA](#)

#### **(U) San Diego – Man Shoots Himself During Standoff Outside FBI San Diego**

(U) A man shot himself yesterday afternoon during a standoff with law enforcement outside the FBI's San Diego field office in Sorrento Valley, authorities said. The man approached the office on Vista Sorrento Parkway about 4 p.m., carrying a handgun and appearing to be suicidal. Agents inside the building “immediately responded to the scene” outside the office, as did San Diego police. The man shot himself before FBI crisis negotiators, bomb techs, and SWAT agents reached the site. The ordeal lasted about 45 minutes before the man shot himself one-time, Special Agent Peter Casey said. No other shots were fired, and investigators later recovered the handgun he used.

SOURCE: 9 December 2020, [San Diego Union Tribune](#)

#### **(U) San Jose – Former Cisco Engineer Sentenced for Webex Teams Hack**

(U) The former Cisco Systems Inc. engineer who pleaded guilty to intentionally causing damage that shut down thousands of Webex Teams accounts for two weeks in 2018 was sentenced yesterday to two years in federal prison. Sudhish Kasaba Ramesh of San Jose, resigned from the San Jose networking giant in April 2018 and joined the San Francisco personal styling service Stitch Fix. Four months after leaving Cisco, Ramesh admittedly accessed Cisco's cloud infrastructure on Amazon Web Services and deployed a code that deleted 456 virtual machines for Webex Teams, Cisco's video meeting and collaboration tool.

SOURCE: [Silicon Valley Business Journal](#)

### (U) SOUTHWEST BORDER

#### **(U) Texas – ICE, CCP Seize Over 100,000 Counterfeit Surgical Masks Intended for Hospital Workers**

(U) El Paso – More than 100,000 counterfeit 3M N95 surgical masks destined to be used by hospital workers were seized on 7 December by US Immigration and Customs Enforcement's Homeland Security Investigations (ICE HSI) and US Customs and Border Protection (CBP). On 3 December, CBP officers at the Ysleta Cargo Facility initially intercepted the shipment of 100,080 3M N95 surgical masks with an MSRP of \$600,480. The masks were in-transit at an El Paso bonded warehouse destined to a hospital on the East Coast. HSI special agents determined the masks were counterfeit after working with the National Intellectual Property Rights Coordination Center and 3M Company.

SOURCE: 9 December 2020, [CBP](#)

**(U) NATIONAL**

**(U) Minnesota – Jury Convicts Illinois Man in Minnesota Mosque Bombing**

(U) Minneapolis – A jury convicted the leader of an Illinois anti-government militia group yesterday of several civil rights and hate crime charges in the 2017 bombing of a Minnesota mosque. Michael Hari, 49, was found guilty on all five counts. They include damaging property because of its religious character, forcibly obstructing the free exercise of religious beliefs, conspiracy to commit felonies with fire and explosives, using a destructive device in a crime of violence, and possessing an unregistered destructive device.

SOURCE: 9 December 2020, [AP](#)

**(U) Pennsylvania – 30 Members and Associates of the Pagans Motorcycle Club Facing Federal Charges**

(U) Pittsburgh – A federal grand jury in Pittsburgh has issued three separate, but related, indictments charging 30 residents of western Pennsylvania and eastern Ohio with narcotics trafficking and firearm possession. According to US Attorney Scott Brady, the indictments are a part of an ongoing investigation into members and associates of the Pagans Motorcycle Club operating in and around western Pennsylvania engaging in illegal activity, including federal violations of drug and firearm laws. The related Indictments are the result of an investigation that began in August of 2018, and ultimately led to a Title III wire investigation with intercepted communications over several telephones from August 2020 through November 2020.

SOURCE: 9 December 2020, [US DOJ](#)

**(U) Washington – Member of Neo-Nazi Group Sentenced for Plot to Target Journalists and Advocates**

(U) Seattle – Johnny Roman Garza, 21, a member of the Neo-Nazi group Atomwaffen Division, was sentenced today to 16 months in prison and three years of supervised release for his role in a plot to threaten and intimidate journalists and advocates who worked to expose anti-Semitism. In his plea agreement, Garza admitted that he conspired with the other defendants via an encrypted online chat group to identify journalists and advocates to threaten in retaliation for the victims' work exposing anti-Semitism. The group focused primarily on journalists and advocates who were Jewish or people of color.

SOURCE: 9 December 2020, [US DOJ](#)

**(U) INTERNATIONAL**

**(U) China – China to Sanction US Officials, Curb Some Diplomat Travel**

(U) Beijing – China said it will sanction more US officials and place new travel restrictions on American diplomats in retaliation for measures taken by the Trump administration over Hong Kong. Chinese Foreign Ministry spokeswoman Hua Chunying didn't provide specific names of those sanctioned, but said they included people in the executive and legislative branches and their immediate families, as well as non-government organizations. China would also revoke visa-free entry to Hong Kong and Macau for US diplomatic passport holders, Hua told a regular briefing in Hong Kong today.

SOURCE: 10 December 2020, [Bloomberg](#)

**(U) Cote d'Ivoire – US Embassy Abidjan Issues Security Alert Warning of Credible Terror Threats**

(U) Abidjan – In a security alert, the US Embassy in Abidjan reported that they are aware of credible terrorist threats against facilities and commercial venues frequented by westerners in and around Abidjan during the holiday season. In response, the embassy has increased its security posture and advised its personnel to maintain heightened awareness while engaged in daily activities. US citizens are

advised to exercise increased caution while in the country, including precautions such as avoiding crowds, keeping a low profile, and staying alert in locations frequented by tourists and westerners.  
SOURCE: 9 December 2020, [US State Department](#)

**(U) France – French Church Attack Suspect Faces Terror Charges, Officials Say**

(U) Nice – French authorities said Monday that the main suspect behind October's deadly Nice church attack has been handed terror murder charges. Brahim Issaoui's health had impeded authorities' ability to question him. Issaoui was seriously wounded by police following the attack and remained hospitalized in life-threatening condition for some time. On Monday, a communique said the Tunisian migrant was charged with "assassinations in connection with a terrorist enterprise" and "participation in a criminal terrorist association."

SOURCE: 8 December 2020, [AP](#)

**(U) Netherlands – Pfizer, BioNTech Vaccine Documents 'Unlawfully Accessed' Following Cyberattack**

(U) Amsterdam – Two pharmaceutical companies in line for first conditional approval for their COVID-19 vaccine by the European Union's medicine regulator said yesterday their documents were "unlawfully accessed" during a cyberattack on a European Medicines Agency (EMA) server. Pfizer and BioNTech said documents relating to its vaccine candidate had been accessed but that "no systems have been breached in connection with this incident." The Amsterdam-based EMA said the incident was being investigated but did not specify when it took place or whether its work on COVID-19 was targeted.

SOURCE: 9 December 2020, [AFP News](#)

**(U) PREPARED BY THE CALIFORNIA STATE THREAT ASSESSMENT CENTER.**

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